

DETAILED ACTION

Substance of Interview

Independent claims 1, 37, and 56 were discussed to determine where the specification had support for the limitation "against a predetermined combination of indicia of usage that are associated with a combination of signals not authorized for usage together on said receiver." The specification has support in at least paragraphs ([0026, 0087, 0093-0098]). Specifically, in paragraph [0095] of the specification, the second sentence provides enough support.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-13, 15, 18-34, 38-49, 52-57, and 59-63 are allowed.

The Prior art of record fails to teach or suggest a method for detecting unauthorized signal usage in a content delivery network, the method comprising the steps of: acquiring at least two signal usage records for a receiver of said content, each signal usage record having indicia of actual usage associated therewith; evaluating the respective indicia of actual usage for said at least two signal usage records against a predetermined combination of indicia of usage that are associated with a combination of signals not authorized for usage together on said receiver; and detecting unauthorized signal usage upon said respective actual usage indicia for said at least two signal usage records being consistent with said predetermined combination of indicia, regardless of whether each instance of signal usage associated with the

at least two actual signal usage records have been previously individually authorized for usage with said receiver," when taking the claim as a whole.

Williams (2004/0123329) discloses if cable modems with a same MAC address were used on different regional networks, then the system prevents use of the cable modem during the registration phase (abstract; Figure 2; paragraphs [0028-0038]).

However, this does not meet the limitation on **regardless of whether each instance of signal usage associated with the at least two actual signal usage records have been previously individually authorized for usage with said receiver.**

Medvinsky (6,754,908) discloses monitoring receivers and detecting unauthorized modifications to the receiver (Figures 6-9; abstract; column 1, line 54-column 2, line 14). However, Medvinsky does not disclose evaluating the respective indicia of actual usage for said at least two signal usage records **against a predetermined combination of indicia of usage that are associated with a combination of signals not authorized for usage together on said receiver...regardless of whether each instance of signal usage associated with the at least two actual signal usage records have been previously individually authorized for usage with said receiver.**

Sprunk (2002/0092015) discloses monitoring receivers and triggering authentication and/or authorization in set top boxes (paragraphs [0032, 0035, 0042, 0048, 0099-0118]; Figures 15A-15C; 16A-16C; abstract). However, Sprunk does not disclose evaluating the respective indicia of actual usage for said at least two signal usage records **against a predetermined combination of indicia of usage that are**

associated with a combination of signals not authorized for usage together on said receiver...regardless of whether each instance of signal usage associated with the at least two actual signal usage records have been previously individually authorized for usage with said receiver.

Bednarek (5,621,793) discloses a TV set top box using GPS and allows descrambling only if an IRD is at an authorized location (abstract). However, Bednarek does not disclose evaluating the respective indicia of actual usage for said at least two signal usage records **against a predetermined combination of indicia of usage that are associated with a combination of signals not authorized for usage together on said receiver...regardless of whether each instance of signal usage associated with the at least two actual signal usage records have been previously individually authorized for usage with said receiver.**

Bennett (4,975,951) discloses view history data authentication stores view history in a record and checks for consistency (column 11, lines 11-22). However, Bennett does not disclose evaluating the respective indicia of actual usage for said at least two signal usage records **against a predetermined combination of indicia of usage that are associated with a combination of signals not authorized for usage together on said receiver...regardless of whether each instance of signal usage associated with the at least two actual signal usage records have been previously individually authorized for usage with said receiver.**

Cocchi (7,530,108) discloses allows reception of multiple channels at a time while simultaneously viewing them. However, Cocchi does not disclose evaluating the

respective indicia of actual usage for said at least two signal usage records against a predetermined combination of indicia of usage that are associated with a combination of signals not authorized for usage together on said receiver...regardless of whether each instance of signal usage associated with the at least two actual signal usage records have been previously individually authorized for usage with said receiver.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON CHUNG whose telephone number is (571)272-3845. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30 (Monday-Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Y. Koenig can be reached on (571)272-7296. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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